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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD



Worcestershire County Council
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

(Thirty-ninth)

on the

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

by

WYNDHAM PARKER, M.C., C.B.E.,
M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Lond.)

County and School Medical Officer.

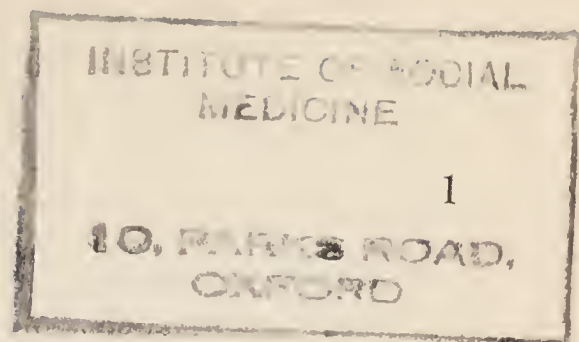
Printed for the Worcestershire County Council Stationery Office
by G. T. Cheshire & Sons, Ltd., Coventry Street, Kidderminster.

1947



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STAFF.

County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

Wyndham Parker, C.B.E., M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

J. W. Pickup, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.D.

Chief Tuberculosis Officer :

R. B. Mayfield, M.D., D.P.H.

Assistant Tuberculosis Officers :

R. C. Cronin, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

J. N. Macartney, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Assistant County and School Medical Officers :

L. J. Bacon, M.D., B.Ch., M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Eileen M. Bulmer, M.B., Ch.B.

Margaret C. Fell, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H.

R. W. Markham, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Margaret M. Meikle, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

J. J. Murray, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Eleanor Patterson, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Vera Pugh, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

C. Starkie, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

A. F. Turner, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sara C. Walker, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Oculists (Part-Time) :

I. Lloyd Johnstone, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.

A. A. Douglas, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.C.S.

C. Martin Doyle, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Chief Dental Officer :

B. D. Britten, L.D.S.

Deputy Chief Dental Officer :

F. H. Pugh, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officers :

Margaret R. Lindsay, L.D.S.

K. R. E. Simpkin, L.D.S.

E. V. Stone-Wigg, L.D.S.

B. N. Watkins, L.D.S.

Chief Clerk :

G. P. Cooper

Superintendent Health Visitor :

Miss N. Ashton, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Senior Health Visitor :

Miss J. C. Butler, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Health Visitors :

Miss E. Aspinall, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss E. R. Baird, S.R.N.
 Miss M. Blaze, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Mrs. H. L. Bryan, S.R.N., S.C.M., H. V. Cert.
 Miss E. M. Clarke, R.S.C.N., S.C.M.
 Miss A. Davies, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 Mrs. W. Dovey, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Cert.
 Mrs. L. K. Flood, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 Miss G. C. Furnish, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss M. Hopkins, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss E. M. Hollins, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss B. J. Hudson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Mrs. E. Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss A. Lawson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss S. Mason, S.C.M.
 Miss E. Nock, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 Miss E. E. Noke, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss M. J. O'Grady, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Mrs. E. L. Pitt, S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss M. I. Robson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
 Miss M. Sheppard, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 Mrs. W. C. Wall, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Dental Attendants :

Miss A. Clissold
 Miss V. A. Evans
 Miss L. M. Fox
 Miss E. R. Pagett
 Mrs. G. Shepherd
 Miss D. Yeates

Orthopaedic Specialists (Part-time) :

F. G. Allan, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 T. S. Donovan, M.B., B.Ch., M.Ch., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 N. Duggan, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopaedic Nurses :

Miss O. M. Woods
 Mrs. K. J. Johnson
 Mrs. W. M. Law (Part-time)

Consultants : (Part-time) :

May Pearce, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Psychiatrist)
 A. G. V. Aldridge, M.D., M.B., B.Ch. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 (Paediatrician)

STAFF.

Dr. G. J. Eady retired after 27 years' service in the north-west portion of the County.

Dr. R. G. Smithson (Oldbury) and Dr. A. F. Turner (Malvern) both joined the West Riding County Council staff. The former was replaced by Dr. E. Connolly and the latter post was temporarily occupied by Dr. L. Roberts, who very kindly came out of her well-earned retirement.

Dr. C. Starkie (Kidderminster Borough) and Dr. R. W. Markham (Stourport, Bewdley, Tenbury and Kidderminster Rural group) joined the County Council's staff after war service.

Dr. L. J. Bacon (Bromsgrove and Redditch) finished his service with the County on the 31st December 1947, on taking up the appointment of Deputy County Medical Officer with the Buckinghamshire County Council.

Dr. Beatrice Thompson filled vacancies first at Evesham and Pershore during the illness of Dr. J. J. Murray and later worked at Malvern and Upton-on-Severn until the appointment of a permanent Medical Officer of Health.

Miss Marshall Meade (Health Visitor) left the Council's service to make her permanent home in Canada.

In conjunction with the Worcester City Council, the Worcester Royal Infirmary, and the Kidderminster, Malvern and Evesham Voluntary Hospitals, it was decided to appoint a Paediatrician. Dr. A. G. V. Aldridge, F.R.C.P., was appointed to this post.

Area of Administrative County	—	—	438221 Acres
Population Mid 1947	—	—	375860
(Registrar General's Estimate)			
Value of 1d. rate	—	—	£7911

		<i>Schools</i>	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
Number of children—				
Nursery	—	2	46	34
Primary	—	282	18,348	17,414
Secondary Modern	—	22	4,061	3,774
Secondary Grammar	—	12	2,562	2,407
Secondary Technical	—	4	475	464
	Total	— 322	25,446	24,059

*Thirty-Ninth Annual Report on the
School Health Service
for the year ended 31st December 1947*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year 1947 has witnessed the consolidation of many of the changes in the School Health Service caused by the implementation of the effective sections of the Education Act 1944.

Progress has been made, particularly with the new responsibilities for the ascertainment of the Handicapped Pupils, though the provision of facilities for special educational treatment is utterly inadequate to meet this newly created requirement of the system of education.

The health of the school children has continued to be satisfactory and this is in no small measure due to the provision of school milk and school meals; immunisation against diphtheria continues to make progress and the protection of the child population has been extended by the introduction of "booster" doses at 5 years and 10 years of age.

Looming on the horizon is the National Health Service Act and at present it is not possible to assess its effects on the School Health Service.

Most earnestly it is to be hoped that the School Health Service will continue to expand and develop and the National Health Service Act 1946 will result in a closer co-operation between the medical and nursing officers of the Local Authority, the family doctor, and the specialist and Hospital staffs with resultant benefits to the health of the individual school child.

The lack of provision of a domiciliary treatment service in the Education Act 1944, left a gap in the School Health Service which has been filled by the National Health Act 1946, so that legislatively there is for the schoolchild at the present time a complete medical service.

Shortages of staff and premises preclude any intense developments but steady progress has been maintained and further developments and progress may be anticipated in preventive and social medicine.

*Hygienic Conditions of School Premises**

Assistant School Medical Officers have made regular inspection of school premises. Satisfactory drinking water and washing facilities are provided in most schools though there is room for improvements both in these amenities and the sanitary arrangements in some of the rural schools.

Unfortunately, owing to the acute shortage of labour and materials, the delayed implementation of the Development Plan, and the economic position, it has not been possible to carry out all the improvements which have been recommended, but it is hoped that further comprehensive action may be taken during the next year to alleviate or obviate these shortcomings.

MEDICAL INSPECTION

School Medical and Dental Records.

In March 1947, new school medical and dental records were issued by the Ministry of Education. In accordance with the Ministry's instructions these new forms which differ substantially from those hitherto in use are being introduced gradually over a period of years by using them only for entrants.

The introduction of this standardised form of Medical Record is a desirable development ; the uniformity so established throughout the country will be of great advantage over the multiplicity of different record cards previously in use by local education authorities.

Age Groups of Children for Medical Examination.

Regulations of the Ministry of Education provide for the medical examination of the following children :—

- (i) Entrants (2—5).
- (ii) Admissions to primary schools (10—11).
- (iii) Leavers (14—15)

The Minister has agreed that so far as present staff permits the eight year old group should be included and that as regards the Secondary Schools an examination be made at the age of 13 years and again in the leaving year

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

Local Education Authority Worcestershire

Table I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending maintained Primary and Secondary Schools

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups							
Entrants	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,693
Second Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,666
Third Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	3,387
					Total	—	12,746
Number of other Periodic Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,329
					Grand Total	—	14,075

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	8,347
Number of Re-Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	8,816
				Total	—	17,163

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants —	27	1,040	1,030
Second Age Group —	298	956	1,191
Third Age Group —	241	567	761
Total (prescribed groups) —	566	2,563	2,982
Other Periodic Inspections	154	280	423
Grand Total —	720	2,843	3,405

Table II.

A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		No. of defects		No. of defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment. (5)
4	Skin — —	146	60	108	5
5	Eyes—a. Vision —	721	305	228	33
	b. Squint —	193	25	52	3
	c. Other —	156	107	19	7
6	Ears—a. Hearing —	32	45	32	36
	b. Otitis Media —	52	44	41	15
	c. Other —	71	45	38	12
7	Nose or Throat —	869	827	504	267
8	Speech — —	12	57	20	17
9	Cervical Glands —	35	179	40	40
10	Heart and Circulation —	20	165	20	47
11	Lungs — —	68	195	89	82
12	Development—				
	a. Hernia — —	26	10	7	4
	b. Other — —	16	39	1	8
13	Orthopaedic—				
	a. Posture — —	113	59	34	14
	b. Flat foot — —	175	94	78	16
	c. Other — —	324	155	79	33
14	Nervous system—				
	a. Epilepsy — —	5	12	9	11
	b. Other — —	19	32	35	15
15	Psychological—				
	a. Development —	31	69	59	65
	b. Stability — —	8	9	15	11
16	Other— — —	1008	604	525	321

Table III.
Treatment Tables.

MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness)

(a)						Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.
SKIN—						
Ringworm—Scalp—						
(i) X-Ray treatment.						11
(ii) Other treatment						4
Ringworm—Body						29
Scabies						169
Impetigo						210
Other skin diseases						927
Eye Disease						322
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital)						
Ear Defects						302
Miscellaneous						2,830
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)						
Total						4,804

(b) Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailments clinics — — — — — 15,687

CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY.

No. of pupils treated (a) under Child Guidance arrangements Nil
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements 26

Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the year in the Age Groups.

Age Groups	Number of Pupils	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
	Inspected	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	4693	2322	49.5	2217	47.2	154	3.3
Second Age Group	4666	1735	37.2	2619	56.1	312	6.7
Third Age Group	3387	1472	43.4	1733	51.2	182	5.4
Other Periodic Inspections	1329	520	39.1	655	49.3	154	11.6
Total	14075	6049	43.0	7224	51.3	802	5.7

The figures for nutrition indicate that in comparison with the year 1945—1946 and with the war years, the improvement in the general state of nutrition of Worcestershire schoolchildren has not only been maintained but shows evidence of a slightly higher standard possibly due to the special arrangements made for the priority classes of babies and toddlers during the war years.

Visual Defects and External Eye Disease

		<i>No. of Defects dealt with</i>
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	—	— 2228
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	—	— 207
	Total	— 2435

No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were

(a) Prescribed	—	—	—	—	1386
(b) Obtained	—	—	—	—	1235

All school children who are suffering or thought to be suffering from an eye defect are referred by the Assistant School Medical Officers to Eye Clinics where all cases are examined by an Eye Specialist. All cases are “followed up” by a visit from the Health Visitor or School Nurse to ascertain that the instructions of the Specialist are being followed. It is felt that this “after-care” service is one of the essential features of the ophthalmic section of the School Health Service.

Nose and Throat Defects

	<i>Total number treated</i>
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	— 901
(b) for other nose and throat conditions	— 17
Received other forms of treatment	— 22
Total	— 940

There is still a long waiting list of cases awaiting operation for removal of tonsils and adenoids; it is hoped that with the re-establishment of normal conditions in Hospitals after the war period that it will be possible to reduce this list to reasonable proportions. The widespread practice of removing all enlarged tonsils and adenoids is to be deplored, and all cases should be examined by an Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, preferably by the same specialist who will carry out the operation.

Cleanliness.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised person	133,462
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	4,027
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	Nil
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)	Nil

School Nurses made 133,462 examinations during 1947 compared with 138,795 in 1946. The number of children found to be unclean was 4,027.

It has been the practice in this County for Health Visitors or District Nurses to visit the parents of the children concerned and explain the necessity for cleansing to be effected. This method of approach has been successful and it has not been necessary to take legal proceedings.

The general standard of cleanliness is satisfactory, but it is somewhat disturbing to find on re-examination perhaps a week after re-admission to school that a child is again suffering from nits in the hair. In many cases the infestation is from an elder sister at home who is negligent in the care of her hair and who is diffident about a thorough combing and brushing of her hair each night and morning, because it will spoil her "permanent wave or set." It has been noted that some of the older pupils do not give proper attention to the state of cleanliness of their hair because they are of an age now permitted by indulgent parents to have their hair "set" or "permed."

The full co-operation of most parents has been obtained when the infestation has been pointed out. The modern methods of treatment are easy to apply and do not entail any isolation or hardship.

The incidence of scabies continues to be almost negligible, Here again it is essential that the home conditions are clean if re-infection is not to occur. It is necessary sometimes to ask the assistance of the District Medical Officer of Health in order to make a satisfactory "clean up."

Ear Disease and Defective Hearing

There is still extreme difficulty in securing hearing aid appliances which are expensive and delicate instruments.

The need of the deaf and partially deaf child has now been recognised and with the ascertainment of the numbers of such children, it will be possible to plan for the provision of adequate facilities for the care, treatment, and special education of these sometimes "forgotten people." The deaf child deserves the same attention as has been given in the past to the blind ; and the results should be equally gratifying and stimulating.

MILK IN SCHOOLS

The following information concerning the Milk in Schools Scheme has been given to me by the Director of Education :—

- (1) The following table shows the number of children receiving milk daily and the number of schools without a milk supply during the last five years :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of children supplied</i>	<i>No. of schools without supply</i>
1943	23,770	8
1944	22,196	9
1945	26,528	7
1946	31,153	6
1947	38,911	1

- (2) The following table shows the type of milk supplied and the sources of supply for the year 1947 (records for earlier years are not available) :—

<i>Type of milk</i>	<i>No. of children supplied</i>	<i>No. of schools supplied</i>
Pasteurised	36,850	270
T.T.	1,092	25
Accredited	685	7
Undesignated	284	6
	38,911	308

<i>Suppliers</i>	<i>No. of suppliers</i>	<i>No. of children supplied</i>	<i>No. of schools supplied</i>	<i>% of schools supplied</i>
Inside county	— 75	27,455	262	85.1%
B'ham. suppliers	— 3	11,314	44	14.3%
Other outside sources	1	142	2	.6%
	79	38,911	308	100.0%

ANALYSIS OF SCHOOL MILK SUPPLIES—WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY

Class of Milk and Type of Container

County	Total number of Schools	Pasteurised Heat Treated or T.T. Pasteurised			T.T. (raw)			Other Liquid Milk			Dried Milk	No Supply
		In thirds with straws	In thirds without straws	In other containers	In thirds with straws	In thirds without straws	In other containers	In thirds with straws	In thirds without straws	In other containers		
Admin. County of Worcs. (excl. Oldbury)	301	243	13	3	13	5	9	6	3	5	—	1
Borough of Oldbury	26	22	4									
Totals — —	327	265	17	3	13	5	9	6	3	5	—	1

It is important to safeguard the quality of the milk supplied to school children and the above figures are evidence of the care which is taken. It is hoped during the next year to obtain only Pasteurised, Pasteurised T.T., Heat-treated or T.T. (raw) milk for distribution under the "Milk In Schools Scheme."

The ideal scheme would be an early morning delivery of Pasteurised T.T. milk in $\frac{1}{3}$ rd pint bottles (with metal caps which overlap the opening at the top of the bottle) together with an adequate supply of straws for use in drinking the milk direct from the bottle.

School Meals

The following report has been supplied by the Director of Education :—

A DAY IN OCTOBER, 1947

MEALS	<i>Dinners</i> —Free	—	2,389
	Payment	—	20,533
	Total served	—	<u>22,922</u>

	<i>Breakfasts and Teas</i>		142
MILK	All free— $\frac{1}{3}$ rd pint	—	38,879
	$\frac{2}{3}$ ds „	—	71

No. of children present in Primary and Secondary Schools	—	—	44,422
--	---	---	--------

No. of children present in Nursery Schools	—	—	71
--	---	---	----

CANTEENS (including Oldbury)

No. of departments in the county		323
No. of departments served	—	257
No. of canteens	—	249

SCHOOLS WITHOUT MILK SUPPLY—Broadwas School

Orthopaedic Defects.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

(a) No. of school children treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	—	—	91
(b) No. treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patients departments	—	—	651

Orthopaedic After-Care.

This is carried out under the direction of Miss O. M. Woods, the Senior Orthopaedic After-Care Sister who has the assistance of Mrs. K. Johnson and Mrs. M. Law.

Miss Woods has given me the following information as to her work in connection with school children, during 1947.

Twenty-eight schools were visited and all the children present were inspected for posture classes subsequently taken by the two Assistant after-care Sisters (Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Law), and at three more with the object of encouraging the Teachers themselves to carry on with posture training throughout the school. Many of the visits paid were to the parents in connection with the training and to give advice *re* shoes, etc.

The Malvern Open Air School was visited periodically with the same objects throughout the year and children were taken for exercises.

Visits were also paid to "Special" children at a further 48 schools.

An Orthopaedic session was held weekly at Evesham from November onwards at which 14 children attended for exercises or special treatment and supervision.

A boy of 16 badly crippled with early Potts disease was taken for an interview at St. Loyes Training College, Exeter, and was subsequently accepted for training in watch repairing.

The Newtown Orthopaedic Centre at Malvern was attended by Mrs. Law where 54 boys and 61 girls were treated monthly in classes.

The period of the courses varied from a few weeks to two or three months. The children after discharge were seen again in from one to six months to ensure that the improvement was maintained. Individual treatment was given to a further 18 children (mostly infants).

Mrs. K. Johnson has also given the following details :—

Thirty schools were visited and all children examined for any physical defect. At 15 of these schools classes in remedial exercises were given once a week for three or four weeks to those children in whom some slight defect was found. Parents were visited in certain cases and advice given in regard to suitable footwear, and the continuance of exercises at home. Many children were found to be wearing unsuitable footwear that had become too small. The high cost of footwear and repairs possibly has some bearing.

Mr. F. G. Allan, the Orthopaedic Surgeon of the Birmingham Royal Cripples Hospital also reported on unsuitable footwear as follows :—

“ It has become apparent for some time on examining the school children referred to the various clinics that a common cause of foot deformity is the wearing of shoes which are too short, and it frequently happens that when a case is referred to an Orthopaedic Clinic the only advice that need be given to the parents is to get shoes of adequate length.”

The School Medical Officers are drawing the attention of parents to the points mentioned but often it is found that economic circumstances affect the supply of footgear.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Provision of Milk for Handicapped Children not at School.
Administrative Memorandum No. 238.

Under arrangements made by the Ministry of Food one pint of milk daily at 1½d. per pint is now available all the year round for children between the ages of 5 and 16 years who are unable on account of disability of mind or body to attend school. The parents of children concerned have been informed of the facilities available.

British Council for the Welfare of Spastics.

The Education Committee are making an annual contribution to the funds of the British Council which was constituted with the full support of the Ministry of Education who were of opinion that there was scope for investigation research and experiment which the British Council was well equipped to undertake.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS. 1947.

	<i>Special Schools.</i>	<i>No. of adms. No. of dischs.</i>	
BLIND			
Royal Institution for the Blind, Birmingham	3	4	
Royal Normal College and Academy of Music, nr. Shrewsbury	— — — —	1	
DEAF.			
Royal Residential School for the Deaf, Manchester	— — — — 1	—	
Royal School for Deaf Children, Birmingham (No. of Hearing Aids supplied—3)	3	2	
SPEECH TRAINING.			
Moorhouse School, Oxted.	— — 1	—	
EPILEPTICS.			
Lingfield Epileptic Colony, Surrey	— 1	3	
DIABETICS.			
Hutton Diabetic Unit	— — — 1	—	

<i>Special Schools.</i>	<i>No. of adms. No. of dischs.</i>	
E.S.N.'s.		
Monyhull Special School, Birmingham	— 13	—
Kingswinford Occupational Centre	— 2	1
Besford Court, nr. Worcester	— 4	1
Beacon School, Lichfield	— 1	—
Lankhills Special School	— 1	1
(No. of cases reported to the Local Control Authority—30)		

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED.

Burton Hill House School	— — — 1	—
Paybody Hospital	— — — 1	—
St. Joseph's Heart Hospital	— — — 1	—
Winford Orthopaedic Hospital	— — — 1	—
St. Margarets, Croydon	— — — 1	—
National Children's Home and Orphanage, Chipping Norton	— — — 1	—
Woodlands, Birmingham	— — — 1	—

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.

Metropolitan Convalescent Home, Broad- stairs	— — — — — 1	—
Moseley Hall Convalescent Hospital for Children, Birmingham	— — — 4	3
Evans' Convalescent Home, Solihull	— — — 6	6
St. John's O.A.S. Woodford Bridge	— — — 1	—
Lady Forester Convalescent Home, Llandudno	— — — — — 1	1
Charnwood Forest Convalescent Home, Woodhouse Eaves	— — — — — 3	2
North of England Children's Sanatorium, Southport	— — — — — 4	4
Royal Alexandra Hospital, Rhyl	— — — — — 6	6
Hugh Sumner Convalescent Home, Malvern	— — — — — 1	1

MALADJUSTED.

Dunnow Hall, Newton-in-Bowland	— — — 1	—
Sheet House Hostel, Shropshire	— — — —	1

PHYSICAL TRAINING

The Director of Education has supplied the following Report prepared by Mr. A. Charles and Mr. R. A. Young, his Advisory Officers.

REPORT ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR 1947

Staff

The Advisory Staff has consisted of two men, one being responsible for the southern part of the county and the other for the northern part.

In the schools which are equipped with gymnasia, the staffing position has shown improvement during the year. Teachers specialising in P.E. in the 21 Secondary Schools which have gymnasia comprised :—

- 7 women and 8 men--Fully trained
 7 „ and 4 „—Two year trained teachers with
 special 3 months P.E. Course
 — 1 man—One year trained teacher with special
 3 months P.E. Course.
 2 women and 6 men—Two year trained teachers with
 vacation courses in P.E.

Teachers' Courses

During the year, courses for teachers were held in Oldbury, Malvern and Catshill. The Oldbury and Malvern courses were for teachers in those two areas, while at Catshill, the course was residential over two week-ends (Friday to Sunday) for specialist teachers from Secondary schools in all parts of the county.

Swimming

A full programme of swimming instruction was carried out for schools at Stourbridge, Kidderminster Redditch, Malvern, Droitwich and Evesham. The open-air baths at Kempsey were used again for the first time since the war.

Returns for the 1947 season show that 2,666 children received instruction; 1839 were non-swimmers, and of these, 775 were able to swim one length of the baths at the end of the season.

Organised Games

Out of 244 Secondary Junior Departments, 146 have the use of playing fields for organised games. It is hoped that more fields will be available as and when sites are acquired for new schools, and where land under cultivation can be turned over to grass. At present, the shortage of playing fields is most pronounced in Stourbridge and Halesowen and in the rural areas.

P.T. Kit

It has not been possible to increase the supply of P.T. clothing and plimsolls to schools. In accordance with Ministry of Education instructions, P.T. Kit for up to one-tenth of school population has been allocated to schools. Lack of proper kit has been responsible for much restriction in the work, but many schools have made commendable efforts to augment this allocation and to ensure that children are able to change into suitable dress for their P.T. and games.

WEST MALVERN RESIDENTIAL OPEN AIR COUNCIL SCHOOL

The Director of Education has given the following Report :—

REPORT FOR 1947

Normally the children are admitted to the school during the second week in March but on account of the severe weather in the early part of 1947 the opening was postponed until April 14th. This meant that the first term instead of being for twelve weeks was limited to eight weeks.

During the year 381 individual pupils were admitted to the school, 201 being boys and 180 girls.

The majority of the children stay for one term, which is normally twelve weeks, but on the advice of the Medical Officer for the school several children were recommended for a further term or two terms residence at the school.

The work at the school proceeded smoothly throughout the year and there was no untoward incident.

Practically all the children gained weight and height and the parents were grateful for the opportunity their children had of having a period of residence at this school, which is situated on the western slope of the Malvern Hills about 800 ft. high.

*Education Act, 1944, Section 48(3), Medical Treatment of
Children in attendance at Maintained Schools*

The payments made to Hospitals for the treatment of children attending maintained schools involved a great deal of enquiry and calculation especially as a considerable amount of arrears existed before the basis of payment and the procedure to be adopted had been agreed.

The implementation of the National Health Service Act and the free provision of hospital treatment by the Regional Hospital Boards will no doubt supersede Section 48 (3) of the Education Act, 1944, though, of necessity, it will be some time before all the hospital accounts have been agreed and settled.

Infectious Diseases

Two schools were closed during the year for short periods on account of Measles in the one case and Measles and Scarlet Fever in the other case.

Speech Therapy

Arrangements with Worcester City.

By arrangement with the City of Worcester Education Committee, children living in the area around Worcester who are recommended for speech training can attend the Clinic in Worcester.

Children in the districts of the County adjoining Birmingham attend at the Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Appointment of Speech Therapist.

The supply of qualified speech therapists is not equal to the sudden demand for their services, caused by the rapid development of the Speech Therapy services, but it is hoped to secure the appointment of a Speech Therapist in the near future, following the approval of the Education Committee to a scheme for the provision of Speech Therapy facilities within the County.

County Dental Service.

Report of Mr. B. D. Britten, L.D.S., the Chief Dental Officer

The Council having approved the policy of the appointment of a Chief Dental Officer to supervise the work of the County Dental Staff and to co-ordinate its activities, particularly in view of the future developments already approved by the County Council, I was appointed and took up my duties on February 1st.

A further increase in the Dental Staff occurred when Mrs. Bond was appointed to do part-time work in Oldbury and the remaining time (two days weekly) in the Blackheath area. She took up her permanent appointment on November 1st. There have been no resignations from the Staff.

It is realised that the County Dental Staff is quite inadequate to give comprehensive treatment to all children eligible for and requiring treatment, and efforts have been made by means of advertisement to obtain more Dental Officers. The results have been most disappointing, as very few replies have been received and all of these have proved unsuitable for one reason or another. The only practical way of dealing with the problem was to improve working conditions for the Dental Officers by various methods, not the least of which was an overhaul of their equipment and subsequently supplying them with more up-to-date items. In addition, factors have been found, in some instances due to a legacy from the past, which have made it possible for one or other Dental Officer to complete the round of his or her area before a less fortunate colleague, and here adjustments have been made in the size of the areas to bring all into line. Dental Officers have been asked for increased output and have responded very well indeed as will be seen from the Table of returns on pages 20 and 21.

A comparison of these figures with those of previous years may be misleading unless it is appreciated that some operations take much longer to perform than others. For instance the average time taken over a filling in a permanent tooth is about three times as much as that taken over the extraction of a temporary tooth. It can therefore be appreciated that if the gross output of permanent fillings of one Dental Officer in the course of a year rises by 200, a corresponding decrease in other items would not necessarily be by the same number. In the example quoted the fall in the number of extractions of temporary teeth could be 600 and the Dental Officer's output still remain constant. It is, therefore, particularly gratifying to find an overall increase in the fillings done in permanent teeth of 2,643 as compared with the figure for 1946, and a decrease of only 1,509 in the number of extractions of temporary teeth. The increase in the number of fillings done is also due to more time being made available by the policy of cutting down the numbers of dressings done, particularly in temporary teeth. These dressings however, only occupy a short length of time and as the number of treatment sessions has only risen by 190 during the year, the results can be called very satisfactory.

Nevertheless, it is still all too obvious that, in spite of these efforts, the Dental Staff is not only still unable to give comprehensive treatment to all children eligible, but also unable to keep in check properly the ravages of caries.

The requirements of the National Health Service Act 1946 in respect of the dental treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and of pre-School children will make further demands on the time of the County Dental Staff, and it has, therefore, become pressing urgent that the Staff be increased as soon as possible. Whilst there is, admittedly, a shortage of Dentists throughout the Country, this shortage is making itself felt most in the Health Service of Local Authorities. At present, there is no doubt that private practice is more attractive than service with a Local Authority, but it is to be hoped that the publication of the report of the Spens Committee will be of help in attracting more Dental Surgeons of the right type to Local Government Service.

Dr. A. T. Wynne of the Ministry of Education made a three day inspection of the County's School Dental Service in September, and the Ministry's report has been studied by the Children's Care Sub-Committee. It shows that, whilst they deplored the shortage of Dental Officers, they were in general agreement with the Council's policy of increasing the number of Dental Clinics as soon as possible and equipping them and existing Clinics in an up-to-date way. They advocate an increased use of general anaesthetics for dental extractions and this policy is now being worked upon.

My thanks are due to Teachers and others who have once again assisted in the smooth running of the Dental Scheme in the past year.

B. D. BRITTEN,
Chief Dental Officer.

Dental Inspection and Treatment

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—

(a) Periodic age groups	—	—	—	—	27,871
(b) Specials	—	—	—	—	1,378
(c) TOTAL (Periodic and Specials)	—	—	—	—	29,249
(2) Number found to require treatment	—	—	—	—	18,142
(3) Number actually treated	—	—	—	—	12,952
(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	—	—	—	—	18,804
(5) Half-days devoted to : (a) Inspection	—	—	—	—	338
(b) Treatment	—	—	—	—	2,436
Total (a) and (b)	—	—	—	—	2,774
(6) Fillings : Permanent Teeth	—	—	—	—	10,309
Temporary Teeth	—	—	—	—	428
Total	—	—	—	—	10,737

(7) Extractions : Permanent Teeth	—	—	—	1,878
Temporary Teeth	—	—	—	14,072
Total	—	—	—	15,950
(8) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	—	—	—	1,328
(9) Other Operations : (a) Permanent Teeth	—	—	—	1,617
(b) Temporary Teeth	—	—	—	1,298
Total (a) and (b)	—	—	—	2,915

Enquiry into Causes of Absence from School.

The Education Committee was glad to co-operate and to allow their Medical Officers, Health Visitors and School Nurses, Teachers and School Attendance Officers to undertake the necessary work in connection with an enquiry being conducted by the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Ministry of Health to find out the extent and cause of absence from school and illness among school children.

This enquiry was being made in selected schools in three urban areas and in two rural areas in the country one of the latter being Worcestershire.

The enquiry in Worcestershire was confined to schools in the Evesham and Upton-on-Severn Rural Districts. It started in the Autumn of 1947 and will continue for one year and it has two main objects namely :—

- (a) The collection of information on the extent and causes of absence from school and illness among the children attending the selected schools : and
- (b) To collect the information on various social and economic factors relating to the families to which those children belong.

School Clinic Premises.

Stourbridge

The premises in Hagley Road built as a First Aid Post are being converted into a Minor Ailments, Dental and Orthopaedic Clinic.

Evesham.

The Ministries of Education and Health have been asked to approve adaptation of the former First Aid Post at the Public Assistance Institution for use as a maternity and child welfare and school medical and dental clinic.

Kidderminster

A portion of the Coventry Street Schools not used for school purposes would, if adapted, prove suitable for use as a Minor Ailments and Dental Clinic and for maternity and child welfare purposes and thus free the Prospect Lane Clinic, which is both unsatisfactory and used for other purposes such as a British Restaurant.

Stourport.

Approval has been given to a proposal to adapt a National Fire Service Hut in Stourport into a School Dental Clinic.

Scheme of Divisional Administration—Borough of Oldbury

Under this scheme, which came into effective operation on the 1st April 1946, arrangements have been made whereby the School Health Service in the Borough continues to be administered by the Borough School Medical Officer and his staff under the direction of the County School Medical Officer.

The report of the Borough School Medical Officer for Oldbury for the year 1947 is printed as an appendix to this Report.

Your obedient Servant,

WYNDHAM PARKER.

County and School Medical Officer.

County Buildings,
Worcester.
May 1949.

APPENDIX.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Borough School Medical Officer

TO THE

OLDBURY COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

FOR THE YEAR 1947

Borough School Medical Officer :

RONALD G. SMITHSON, M.D., ChB., (Hons.), D.P.H.

(Resigned 31-8-47)

EUGENE V. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., L.M., D.C.H.

(Commenced 4-9-47)

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

OLDBURY COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION, NOVEMBER, 1946 to OCTOBER, 1947.

Representative Members :

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., *Chairman*.
 COUNCILLOR J. F. GOODE, C.C., *Vice-Chairman*.
 ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, C.C.
 „ H. H. ROBBINS, C.A.
 „ G. W. ROSE, J.P.
 „ Mrs. L. A. SMITH.

Councillors :

MRS. M. E. GARRATT.	MRS. C. NASH.
A. GUNN.	MRS. V. E. ROSE.
MRS. E. M. J. GUNN.	MRS. R. SMALLWOOD, J.P.
W. HAYES, C.C.	MRS. R. STARKIE.
J. W. HOLLAND.	E. THOMAS.
W. H. HUNTER.	F. W. THOMPSON.

Nominated Members :

SIR W. H. S. CHANCE, C.C.
 DR. F. E. DAWES.
 MR. A. P. HANDS, J.P., C.C.
 MR. G. H. PRICE, C.C.

Appointed Members :

MR. H. V. CLIFT.
 DR. C. C. HOWARD.
 MR. G. H. MERCER, J.P.
 MR. F. WESTON.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND CHILDREN'S CARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Aldermen :

MRS. L. A. SMITH (*Chairman*).
 S. T. MELSOM, C.C.
 B. T. ROBBINS, J.P.
 H. H. ROBBINS, C.A.

Councillors :

MRS. M. E. GARRATT.	MRS. V. E. ROSE.
MRS. E. M. J. GUNN.	MRS. R. SMALLWOOD, J.P.
W. H. HUNTER.	MRS. R. STARKIE.
MRS. C. NASH.	E. THOMAS.
F. W. THOMPSON.	

MR. H. V. CLIFT.
 MR. A. P. HANDS, J.P., C.C.
 MR. G. H. PRICE, C.C.

STAFF.**School Medical Officer :**

RONALD G. SMITHSON, M.D., Ch.B. (Hons.), D.P.H.
(Resigned 31-8-47)

EUGENE V. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., L.M., D.C.H.
(Commenced 4-9-47)

Deputy School Medical Officer :

C. D. ROSENWALD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Commenced 20-10-47)

Assistant School Medical Officer :

PEARL E. FREEMAN, M.B., Ch.B.
(Commenced 3-11-47)

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

JANE PARKER SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.

Dental Surgeon :

W. CROFTS ARKLE, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. (Glas.)
(From 1-1-47 to 30-6-47 and 1-12-47 to 31-12-47)

MRS. M. J. BOND, L.D.S.
(From 1-7-47)

School Nurses :

MISS H. STANSFIELD.	MRS. B. C. GREEN.
MISS G. N. DAWSON.	(From 1-6-47 to 30-11-47)
MISS B. LAMB.	MISS D. A. EDWARDS.
	MISS A. L. GADD.

Dental Clerks :

MISS A. E. SMITH.
MISS M. D. LEESE.
(From 1-12-47)

Chief Clerk :

S. ASTLEY.

Clerks :

MISS N. B. RICKETTS.	MISS P. FIELDING.
MISS S. M. WATERHOUSE	(Resigned 30-11-47)
MISS I. HIPKISS.	MISS V. H. SCRIVEN.
MISS M. D. LEESE.	(Commenced 17-3-47).
(Returned from Nursing Service on 10-6-47).	MISS J. SMALLWOOD.
	(Commenced 8-4-47).
MISS I. D. BUTLER.	MISS H. M. NIGHTINGALE.
MISS B. TUCKER.	(Commenced 15-12-47).
MISS H. M. CARPENTER.	
(Resigned 15-2-47).	

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

To the Chairman and Members of the Oldbury Committee for
Education.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege to present my first Annual School Report on the work of the School Medical Service in Oldbury for the year 1947.

My own share in the work as School Medical Officer was limited to the last quarter of the year and the figures presented are largely as a result of the work of my predecessor, Dr. R. G. Smithson.

Despite changes in the Medical and Nursing Staff during the year, it was possible to maintain work in the schools and Clinics at an even higher level than in the previous year. A good deal of emphasis was placed on the examination of the preschool child and it is pleasing to record that 664 such children were medically examined.

The Education Committee are to be congratulated on making arrangements to provide two Sun-Ray Lamps for use in the Warley and Langley Clinics and when these are installed and working in conjunction with the Sun-Ray Department, so kindly placed at our disposal by Messrs. Accles and Pollock, we will be in a position to adequately treat the ever increasing numbers of children recommended.

In connection with Infectious Diseases, the total number of cases notified was practically the same as in the previous year, measles again providing the majority of the notifications. Diphtheria cases numbered only 6 with no deaths which, by comparison with the previous year is very gratifying but we will not be happy until we have reduced this disease to zero level in the Borough. 88.28% of our children of 5—15 have been immunised up to the end of the year but it was only possible to reach this figure by an extensive school campaign during the period Infantile Paralysis caused us much concern when it attained epidemic proportions throughout the country, but it is pleasing to record that of the five cases which occurred in schoolchildren in the Borough all made a satisfactory recovery.

With reference to educationally sub normal children, the Education Committee obtained sixteen places at the Smethwick Special School which was a considerable help in dealing with these cases. Institutional treatment is still difficult to obtain, but with the possibility of further accommodation being provided by the County Council during the coming year we look forward to their earlier admission after ascertainment.

On the Dental side, the re-appointment of Mr. W. Crofts Arkle and the appointment of Mrs. M. Bond gives this department, for the first time, two Dentists. This very welcome addition is already showing a good return in the increased numbers of children receiving treatment.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee for their assistance and support. to the Education Officer, Teachers and Colleagues for their co-operation and to my Medical and Clerical Staff who have given me such excellent service and very loyal co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

EUGENE V. CONNOLLY,

School Medical Officer.

Municipal Buildings,
Oldbury.
March, 1948.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Cost of School Medical Service for year ending 31st					
March, 1947—	—	—	—	—	£6,222
Parents' Contribution	—	—	—	—	£1
Product of Penny Rate (1946-47)	—	—	—	—	£886
Cost of School Medical Service—Rate in the £	—	—	—	—	7.017d.

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN OLDBURY.

SCHOOL.	Average No. on Roll 1947	No. on Roll at 31-12-47	Accom- modation in each Dept.
Oldbury Grammar — —	526	537	500
Secondary Technical — —	121	126	120
Albright Secondary Modern Boys'	314	373	480
„ „ „ Girls'	328	402	480
Bristnall Hall Secondary Modern			
Boys' — — —	375	445	480
„ „ „ „ Girls'	336	390	480
St. Michael's C. of E. Secondary			
Modern — — —	260	303	320
Bleakhouse Primary Junior Mixed	350	338	400
Brandhall Primary Infant and			
Junior — — —	398	394	350
Castle Road Primary Infant and			
Junior — — —	314	300	516
Church of England Primary Infants'	97	87	182
Good Shepherd C. of E. Primary			
Junior Mixed — —	200	192	278
Moat Farm Primary Boys' —	315	316	384
Moat Farm Primary Girls' —	309	305	384
Moat Farm Primary Infants' —	343	296	350
Rood End Primary Junior Mixed —	445	436	520
Rood End Primary Infants' —	264	246	290
Rounds Green Primary Junior			
Mixed — — —	407	419	480
Rounds Green Primary Infants' —	229	224	330
St. Francis X.'s R.C. Infant, Junior			
and Senior — — —	187	183	210
St. Hubert's R.C. Infant and Junior	158	154	192
Titford Road Primary Boys' —	288	296	330
Titford Road Primary Girls' —	264	256	330
Titford Road Primary Infants' —	300	287	336
Warley Primary Infants' —	178	158	389
Totals —	7,306	7,463	9,111

NURSERY CLASSES.

School.	Established.	Average No. on Roll.	
Brandhall	September, 1941	—	30
Castle Road	First Class April, 1937	—	53
	Second Class October, 1943	—	
Moat Farm	August, 1938	—	30
Rood End	November, 1942	—	28
Rounds Green	First Class August, 1938	—	50
	Second Class October, 1942	—	
Titford Road	First Class August, 1940	—	53
	Second Class September, 1946	—	
Warley	August, 1942	—	30
			274

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The number of children examined was as follows :—

	1945	1946	1947
Entrants (5 years)	810	648	661
2nd Age Group (9 years)	809	639	797
3rd Age Group (13 years)	717	596	640
Other Periodic (11 years, 15 years)	—	—	662
Specials	75	56	38
Nursery Classes	—	—	141
Pre-School	54	16	664
	2,465	1,955	3,603

Of the 2,901 children examined at Periodic and Nursery Inspections and 664 Pre-School children the following numbers were referred for treatment :—

	Periodic and Nursery Classes	Pre-School
Skin Defects	22	4
Eye Defects	377	2
Ear Defects	20	7
Nose and Throat	410	47
Heart and Anaemia	6	2
Lungs and Bronchitis	14	20
Nervous System	3	—
Orthopaedic	237	30
Uncleanliness	195	8
Sun-ray	144	18
Other Defects	778	45
	2206	183

In addition 2,744 defects from previous inspections were re-examined and 947 were referred for treatment.

4,545 re-inspections were carried out for special purposes as follows :—

	No. of Children Inspected.
Specials in School — — — —	38
Re-Inspection of Defects — — — —	2,744
Attendances at Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics —	334
„ „ Orthopaedic Clinics — —	250
„ „ Investigation Clinics — —	587
Edgmond Hall Camp School (F.F.I. examinations)	450
Malvern Open-Air School — — — —	49
Weston-Super-Mare Rotary Boys' Home — —	43
Employment of Children — — — —	7
Mental Tests — — — —	33
Special Examinations by School Medical Officer —	10
Total —	4,545

Nutrition.

Table 2 at the end of this report gives a classification of the nutritional state of children inspected at Periodic Medical Inspections during the year. For the purposes of comparison similar figures are given each year since 1938, in the following tables :—

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED IN THE 1st, 2nd and 3rd AGE GROUPS.

Year	Number of Children Inspected	A		B		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		(Excellent) No.	%	(Normal) No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1946 ..	1,883	318	16.87	1269	67.39	263	13.96	33	1.76
1945 ..	2,336	386	16.52	1641	70.24	291	12.46	18	0.77
1944 ..	2,502	416	16.62	1800	71.94	266	10.64	20	0.80
1943 ..	2,658	528	19.86	1920	72.25	201	7.55	9	0.34
1942 ..	1,580	351	22.21	1090	68.98	134	8.48	5	0.31
1941 ..	1,530	410	26.79	1040	67.07	79	5.16	1	0.06
1940 ..	1,477	416	28.16	848	57.41	197	13.33	16	1.08
1939 ..	1,587	432	27.21	1073	67.61	82	5.1	—	—
1938 ..	2,739	1048	38.26	1549	56.55	141	5.14	1	0.03

Through the courtesy of the Education Officer I am informed that a total of 694,482 meals were served in school during the year and of this number 92,390 meals were served free of charge. Almost one half of all children attending the schools in the Borough take their mid-day meal in school.

Similarly I understand 1,272,397 bottles of milk were supplied. All children now receive their school milk free of charge and this milk adds an additional 14%, approximately, of first class protein to the child's diet.

The canteen kitchen at Rounds Green School, catering for 750 children and four schools, has now been completed and is working very satisfactorily.

Children in the Nursery Classes continued to be supplied with Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice and where necessary iron tablets.

MINOR AILMENTS AND DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

The total number of children examined at the Minor Ailment Clinics by the doctor during the year was 1,142. Re-examinations totalled 2,022.

The number of children treated for minor defects at the three Clinics are as follows :—

Clinic				No. of children	No. of attendances for treatment
Warley	—	—	—	428	2,670
Langley	—	—	—	439	1,390
Oldbury	—	—	—	878	2,968
				1,745	7,028

Defects Treated.				Oldbury.	Langley,	Warley.	Total.
Impetigo	—	—	—	18	22	17	57
Ringworm	—	—	—	1	9	6	16
Scabies	—	—	—	16	30	7	53
Other Skin Diseases	—	—	—	341	125	187	653
Blepharitis	—	—	—	27	16	15	58
Conjunctivitis	—	—	—	23	9	31	63
Other Eye Conditions	—	—	—	39	24	42	105
Otorrhoea	—	—	—	35	12	19	56
Other Ear Defects	—	—	—	68	24	36	128
Minor Injuries, Sores, etc.	—	—	—	220	74	135	429
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	337	302	356	995
Totals				1,125	647	851	2,623

Scabies.

During the course of the year 53 children received 65 baths and 65 treatments for Scabies.

It is pleasing to record the marked reduction in the number of cases of Scabies. This condition which, during the war and immediately after, was a major problem is decreasing rapidly.

TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

During the course of the year 510 cases attended the Clinic for examination by the Ophthalmic Consultant. 364 cases were seen for errors of refraction, spectacles were prescribed in 273 cases and in 261 cases the spectacles were reported to have been obtained.

168 cases were referred to the Birmingham Eye Hospital and West Bromwich and District General Hospital, and 76 of these cases were recommended for fusion training.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

At the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic 333 children made 334 attendances at 45 sessions.

91 children attended at the Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich, for removal of Tonsils and Adenoids under the Committee's scheme. 17 children attended the Children's Hospital, Birmingham, and 24 children attended the West Bromwich and District Hospital. 22 children were referred to hospital for other forms of treatment.

There were 3 refusals for removal of Tonsils and Adenoids.

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

36 sessions were held at the Council's Orthopaedic Clinic at the Hollies, Joinings Bank, Langley, during the year. 250 children made 250 attendances.

Two cases received in-patient treatment at the Woodlands during the year.

These figures do not include cases of bone Tuberculosis which are cared for under the County Council's Tuberculosis scheme.

Three crippled boys continued in whole-time attendance at the Heritage Craft School, Chailey, Sussex.

Owing to the falling off in numbers of children attending the Clinics it was thought advisable to combine both the Ear, Nose and Throat and Orthopaedic Clinics and have one weekly session at "The Hollies" Clinic. This arrangement is working satisfactorily.

INVESTIGATION CLINIC.

This Clinic is held on Saturday mornings. Arrangements are made for special cases to attend by appointment at the Clinic, so that the Medical Officer shall have a better opportunity of investigating the case than he has at any other session during the week.

During the year 65 sessions were held. 579 children attended on 587 occasions.

By courtesy of the School Medical Officer, Smethwick, two cases of rheumatic heart conditions were admitted to the Hollies Residential School, Smethwick.

SUNRAY CLINIC.

By courtesy of Messrs. Accles and Pollôck the School Medical Department has had an Ultra-Violet Ray Department at its disposal during January, February, November and December.

Owing to lack of staff it has only been possible to arrange one session per week, and 197 children made 593 attendances at 13 sessions.

UNCLEANLINESS.

On an average three visits were made to each school during the year.

The total number of children examined was 17,813, of whom 1,237 were found to have a few nits in the hair and 110 were found to have numerous nits or vermin.

It was not necessary to take proceedings against any family, but a more extensive drive is contemplated in connection with these cases during the coming year.

HOME VISITING BY SCHOOL NURSES.

The School Nurses paid 608 visits to childrens' homes during the year. These visits were for the purpose of following up defects found at medical inspections, uncleanliness and infectious disease. Much more visiting is needed, but it is impossible to carry out this work satisfactorily till we have a full staff.

JUVENILE OFFENDERS.

It was reported to the appropriate Sub-Committee during the year that 79 children attending Oldbury Schools had to appear before the Courts as Juvenile Offenders. Of this number 3 were referred to the School Medical Department.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications of Infectious Disease received during the year for children between the age of 5 and 15 years, together with the Comparison Figures for last year are given below :—

			Cases		Hospital	
			1947	1946	1947	1946
Whooping Cough	—	—	10	40	—	—
Measles	—	—	213	163	4	—
Diphtheria	—	—	6	26	6	25
Scarlet Fever	—	—	72	80	4	7
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	9	9	—	1
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis			5	—	5	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	6	2	2	—
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	2	3	1	1

WHOOPING COUGH.

Only ten cases were notified during the year. This is very pleasing to record as generally it attacks an appreciable percentage of the younger school population and is an important cause of death in young children especially during their first year. The prevention or modification of the disease is now practicable and the simultaneous immunisation against whooping cough and diphtheria can be performed, though the results are not quite as certain as those in connection with diphtheria immunisation.

MEASLES.

The number of cases notified show an increase of fifty on the previous year. The only certain way of avoiding infection is to avoid exposure to infection and that for the urban child is practically an impossibility.

DIPHTHERIA.

There was an appreciable fall in the number of cases of Diphtheria among school children in 1947. The number of school children submitted for Immunisation during the year was 425. It is estimated that 88.28% of all children between the ages of 5 and 15 years in Oldbury were Immunised on the 31st December, 1947. The value of Immunisation is beyond doubt and it is to parents that we appeal for an even greater improvement in our immunisation figures. Inoculation at the age of 1 year should be a routine habit for all mothers.

EXCLUSION OF CHILDREN.

The total number of children excluded from school by the School Medical Department was 587.

109 children were excluded as a result of having infectious disease ; 143 for verminous heads and 335 for minor ailments.

CAMP SCHOOL.

Full use continues to be made of the arrangements for Senior children to attend for fortnightly periods at Edgmond Hall Camp School. The total number of children examined for admission to the school during the year was 450.

OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

In 1947 the County Education Committee were able to place at the disposal of Oldbury school children 49 places at the Open Air School, Malvern. A total of 49 children were sent, 28 were girls and 21 boys. The waiting list for places in the Open Air School would appear to justify additional accommodation being requested, but there is some hesitancy on the part of parents to sending a child so far away. At any rate it is always necessary to invite 50% more children to attend for examination than the number of vacancies at our disposal.

ROTARY BOYS' HOME, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

By courtesy of the Rotary Club of Oldbury it has been possible to obtain accommodation in the Rotary Boys' Home at Weston-Super-Mare for selected candidates to spend two weeks each by the seaside. In collaboration with the Heads of the Boys' Schools, 35 pupils went to the Home during the year.

EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL CHILDREN.

33 Intelligence Tests were carried out during the year ; 7 cases were notified to the Mental Deficiency Act Committee, 15 recommended for a special School or Class, 9 recommended for accommodation in special classes in an ordinary school and 2 recommended for education in an ordinary school.

The Department is now in possession of the results of examinations of sufficient children to justify the establishment of at least one special class in Oldbury. Places for sixteen children were obtained at Smethwick Special School towards the latter end of the year and this has been a great help in dealing with these cases. An occupation centre is envisaged by the County Council for the northern part of the County of Worcester and we are hoping to benefit considerably when this centre is completed.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL DENTAL SURGEON FOR 1947.

During the year 1947, the School Dental Service continued much as in previous years and the demand for treatment, particularly of an Orthodontic character, continues to increase.

Unfortunately, during the year, there was a break in the continuity of service of the Dental Staff, but, towards the end of the year, with the appointment of Mrs. M. J. Bond and myself to the permanent staff, the position considerably improved. As Mrs. Bond assists in the County Area for two days each week, she is only available in Oldbury for $3\frac{1}{2}$ days per week but this has considerably improved the Service available to the children of the Borough and I look forward with confidence to more comprehensive treatment and a shorter time-lag between dental inspections of the school population in 1948.

With the raising of the school leaving age, plus the taking-over of the responsibility for the dental treatment of the pupils of the County High School and the Technical School, the total number now entitled to take advantage of the Dental Services of the Borough has considerably increased, but this is more than counterbalanced by the additional staff now available.

The work carried out during the year is summarised in Table IV.

Once again, my thanks are due to the Medical Officer of Health and his Staff, and to the Head Teachers and Staffs of the Schools for their continued co-operation, and to my colleague, Mrs. M. J. Bond and her Dental Clerk, Miss M. D. Leese, for their assistance and rapid adaptability to the difficulties of the School Dental Service, and to my own Dental Clerk, Miss A. E. Smith, for her efficient assistance at all times.

W. CROFTS ARKLE.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending maintained Primary and Secondary Schools.

A. PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections in the prescribed groups :—

Entrants —	—	—	—	—	—	661
Second Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	797
Third Age Group —	—	—	—	—	—	640
Total						2098

Number of other periodic inspections —	—	—	—	—	—	662
Grand Total						2760

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of special inspections	—	—	—	—	—	38
Number of re-inspections —	—	—	—	—	—	4545
Total						4583

C. PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

GROUP (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA. (3)	Total individual pupils. (4)
Entrants ..	9	295	304
2nd Age Group	83	370	433
3rd Age Group ..	63	233	284
Total ..	155	898	1021
Other periodic Inspections ..	97	197	292
Grand Total ..	252	1095	1313

TABLE II.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease (1)	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of defects		No. of defects	
		Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observ- ation, but not requiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observ- ation, but not requiring treatment (5)
4	Skin	22	38	—	—
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision ..	252	127	11	1
	<i>b.</i> Squint ..	32	7	—	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	63	95	—	2
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing ..	4	4	—	2
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	6	2	—	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ..	10	25	—	—
7	Nose or Throat ..	410	261	2	—
8	Speech	9	19	—	1
9	Cervical Glands ..	17	85	—	3
10	Heart and Circulation	6	53	1	1
11	Lungs	14	41	2	3
12	Developmental				
	<i>a.</i> Hernia	—	—	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Other	—	2	—	—
13	Orthopaedic—				
	<i>a.</i> Posture	50	26	1	—
	<i>b.</i> Flat foot ..	39	44	—	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	148	83	—	1
14	Nervous System—				
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy	—	2	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Other	3	4	—	—
15	Psychological—				
	<i>a.</i> Development ..	—	—	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Stability	—	1	—	—
16	Other	752	153	2	4
	TOTALS	1847	1077	19	18

B. CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED.

Age Groups	No. of Pupils inspected	A. Good %		B. (Fair) %		C. (Poor) %	
		No.	of col. 2	No.	of col. 2	No.	of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ..	661	116	17.54	477	72.16	686	10.38
2nd Age Group ..	797	130	16.31	484	60.72	183	22.96
3rd Age Group ..	640	142	22.18	385	60.15	113	17.65
Other period inspection ..	662	132	19.93	384	58.00	146	22.05
TOTAL	2760	520	18.84	1730	62.68	510	18.47

TABLE III.
TREATMENT TABLES.
GROUP I—Minor Ailments—excluding uncleanness.

(a)						Number of defects treated or under treatment during the year.
SKIN—						
Ringworm—Scalp						
(i) X-Ray treatment	—	—	—	—	—	
(ii) Other treatment	—	—	—	—	1	
Ringworm—Body	—	—	—	—	15	
Scabies	—	—	—	—	53	
Impetigo	—	—	—	—	57	
Other skin diseases	—	—	—	—	653	
EYE DISEASE (external and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital)						226
EAR DEFECTS	—	—	—	—	194	
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	1428	
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains etc.)						
Total					—	2623

(b) Total attendances at minor ailment clinics — 7028

GROUP II—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding eye diseases treated as Minor Ailments—Group I):

Errors of refraction (including Squint)	—	—	—	—	382
Other defects or disease of the eye (excluding those recorded in Group I)	—	—	—	—	59
Total					441
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were					
(a) Prescribed	—	—	—	—	273
(b) Obtained	—	—	—	—	261

GROUP III—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received operative treatment—					
(a) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	—	—	—	132
(b) for other nose and throat conditions	—	—	—	—	1
Received other forms of treatment	—	—	—	—	22
Total					155

GROUP IV—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals or hospital schools	—	—	—	—	6
(b) Number treated otherwise e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	—	—	—	—	48

GROUP V—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT AND SPEECH THERAPY.

Number of pupils treated—					
(a) under Child Guidance arrangements	—	—	—	—	—
(b) under Speech Therapy arrangements	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE V.
VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

1.	Total number of examinations in the schools by the School Nurses or other authorised persons	—	—	18,013
2.	Number of individual children found unclean	—	—	1,296
3.	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act, 1944)	—	—	Nil
4.	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act, 1944)	—	—	Nil

TABLE VI.
SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF.

		Proportion of whole-time devoted to	
		School Medical Service	Public Health
Name of Officer			
S.M.O.	— Dr. R. G. Smithson (to 31.8.47). Dr. E. V. Connolly (from 4.9.47).	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$
Asst. S.M.O.	— Dr. E. V. Connolly (to 3.9.47).	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
Asst. S.M.O.	— Dr. C. D. Rosenwald (from 20.10.47). Dr. M. J. W. Finlayson (from 1.2.47 to 31.10.47). Dr. Pearl E. Freeman (from 3.11.47)	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$
Senior Dentist—	W. Crofts Arkle (from 1.1.47 to 30.6.47 and 1.12.47 to 31.12.47). Mrs. M. J. Bond (Part time (from 1.7.47).	$\frac{4}{5}$ $\frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{1}{5}$

SCHOOL NURSING STAFF.
(including Specialist Nurses such as Orthopaedic Nurses).

	Number of Officers	Aggregate of time given to S.M.S. work in terms of whole-time officers
Nurses	— 6	3
Nurse	— —	—
Eng Assistants*	— —	—
Mat Attendants	— 2	1 7/25

*This term refers to the untrained assistants described in paragraphs 3 of Circular 1604.



